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In the claims:

All claims standing for examination are reproduced below with appropriate status indication.

1-7 (Canceled)

8. (Currently amended) In a portable CD player, a CD storage mechanism for storing a plurality of CDs for access and selection comprising:

- a storage compartment having a compartment floor and peripheral walls;
- a compartment door swungly mounted along one peripheral wall of the compartment so as to substantially cover the compartment when closed;
- at least one panel recessable in the compartment and axially mounted at one end therein; and

- a plurality of CD retention hubs ~~strategically~~ affixed to the door, panel, and compartment floor each one capable of retaining at least one CD;

characterized in that a user opens the door of the compartment thereby providing access to one or more CDs retained on a hub affixed on the underside of the door, on opposing sides of the panel, and on the compartment floor, the hubs loaded with CDs aligning to form a CD stack within the storage compartment when the door is closed.

9. (Original) The CD storage mechanism of claim 8 wherein the at least one panel is fixed to a hinge and mechanically swings out of the compartment upon opening the compartment door.

10. (Original) The CD storage mechanism of claim 8 wherein the at least one panel is spring loaded to pop up upon opening the compartment door.